

genera of Cladocera have been reported from this region so far. We describe a rare cladoceran *Leydigia acanthocercoides* (Fischer), for the first time from this locality.

L. acanthocercoides is a widely distributed species in India (Nayar, 1971; Sharma, 1978; Michael and Sharma, 1988) and Sri Lanka (Rajapaksa and Fernando, 1982). In a study of Cladocera of the Indian subcontinent extending from 6°N (Sri Lanka) to 37°N (Kashmir) Lat. Fernando and Kanduru (1984) have included *L. acanthocercoides* in a group of cladocerans which occurred at all latitudes over 32-20° N except Srinagar.

The species inhabits aquatic weeds in polluted ponds. Specimens were preserved in 5% formalin, sketched with the help of camera lucida and measured. The species was identified after Battish (1992).

Female: Body measures 0.64 mm in length. Main features include oblong, oval shaped, compressed shell without crest with small extended head. Dorsal margin of the shell not evenly rounded. Shell valves with

longitudinal striations on the postero-ventral edge. Entire ventral margin of valves with long cilia. Labral keel rhomboidal with rounded corners and provided with cilia. Ocellus pentagonal and larger than rounded eye. Post-abdomen large with numerous cilia, while expanded post-anal part with a number of large spines of varying lengths. Claws long and slender without basal spine. Colour pink in living specimen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are thankful to the Chairman, Department of Zoology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for providing working facilities.

November 28, 1997

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36. EXTENDED DISTRIBUTION AND CONSERVATION OF THE RARE SEA WEED *TYDEMANIA EXPEDITIONIS* WEBER VAN BOSSE (CHLOROPHYCEAE) IN THE INDIAN REGION

The genus *Tydemania* Weber Van Bosse is represented by only two species viz. *T. gardineri* and *T. expeditionis* in the world, with their principal centres of distribution in Malayan

archipelago, Philippines, Marshall Islands, Liu-Kiu Islands, Caroline Islands, Nancowry Island in the Bay of Bengal and Chagos Archipelago, Amirante Islands. From the Indian region,

Srinivasan (1954) has reported this species from Nancowry Island of the Andaman-Nicobar archipelago in the Bay of Bengal. A perusal of the literature on Indian marine flora shows that no further collection of this species was made anywhere in the Indian region in the last four decades, thereby indicating its restricted distribution on the Indian coasts (Anonymous, 1983; Jagtap, 1985; Anonymous, 1987).

The authors, while studying the Marine Algal Flora of Andaman-Nicobar Islands, collected this taxon from Red Skin Island of Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park near Port Blair, South Andaman, confirming its extended distribution in the Indian region. It is seen growing attached to coralline rocks in a sheltered bay, forming clumps below the low tide mark. Sometimes the alga may be mistaken for some marine animal with its thick caterpillar-like form, owing to the presence of characteristic sub-spheroid branched structures, the glomerules contiguously placed on the upright shoots.

Taxonomic Description: Coenocyte slightly calcified. Prostrate system thick branched, creeping rhizome, monosiphonous, constricted at shorter or longer intervals, up to 550 μ or more across. Rhizoids constricted at base, torulose. Flabella rare. Erect system with several erect shoots. Shoots with a series of glomerules giving a characteristic appearance to the alga. About 16 glomerules on each axial filament, each measuring 1 cm high and 1 cm

broad. On drying, the alga takes on an ash colour, because of the feeble calcification of the glomerules.

Conservation: The natural habitats from where the authors and Srinivasan (1954) have reported *T. expeditionis* are known to show only a few patches of the alga and its collection is attended with a certain amount of risk. The coralline rocks on which this rare green alga grows are constantly dashed by waves, and are almost always completely submerged by the swell of the tide. The recent spurt in quarrying of coralline rocks for limestone has threatened rare marine flora. The declaration of the habitat of *T. expeditionis* as the Marine National Park near Port Blair is aimed at conserving many such species of rare occurrence and marine biological diversity.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are thankful to Dr. P.K. Hajra, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta for encouragement; and Dr. D.V. Rao, Zoological Survey of India, Port Blair for assistance rendered in the collection of specimens.

February 13, 1997

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37. NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON OEDOGONIALES

I received a copy of a book entitled OEDOGONIALES as a gift from the author, Prof. Ella

A. Gonsalves (Retd.), during a visit to her residence in August 1996. While going through